



Education Committee - Board of Representatives

Mary Savage, Chair

Committee Report

Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Democratic Caucus Room, 4th Floor Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The Education Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Savage and Committee Member Reps. Buckman, de la Cruz, Di Costanzo, Nabel and Wallace. Absent or excused were Committee Member Reps. Cerasoli, Kolenberg and Quinones. Also present were Domenic Tramontozzi, Senior Construction Manager, Engineering; Cindy Grafstein, Mayor's Office; Kathy Emmett, Corporation Counsel, and six members of the Student Advisory Committee.

Chair Savage called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. E29.014	REVIEW; Student Advisory Council 2014-15. (6:00 p.m.) 08/06/14 – Submitted by Rep. Savage 08/20/14 – Report Made & Held in Committee 09/17/14 – Report Made & Held in Committee 10/22/14 – Report Made & Held in Committee 11/19/14 – Report Made & Held in Committee 12/17/14 – Report Made & Held in Committee 02/18/15 – Report Made & Held in Committee 03/18/15 – Report Made & Held in Committee	REPORT MADE AND HELD

A discussion took place on topics for future discussion. Mental Health Awareness was the topic chosen for the May meeting. For this evening's discussion, Standardized Testing was chosen. Hannah was the Recorder. Discussion and questions about testing followed.

Recruitment of new Council Members will be taking place in May. Chair Savage will contact all High School principals. Dates for presentations will be set up.

The May meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 20, at 6:00 p.m., pending Steering Committee approval.

2. [E29.021](#) APPROVAL; Agreement Between the City of Stamford and Perkins-Eastman For Design Services For A New K-5 Inter-District Magnet School At 200 Strawberry Hill Ave. Stamford, CT. (7:00 p.m.)
04/08/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
04/29/15 – To be considered by Board of Finance
- HELD UNTIL
MAY 5, 2015**

Ms. Emmett, Ms. Grafstein and Mr. Tramontozzi reviewed the draft agreement and answered questions from Committee members. The following items were noted:

- This contract is not final because 2 minor business issues are still being discussed. Ms. Emmett believes these will be resolved in the next day or 2.
- The contract is phased. Only Phases I and II are approved to go forward with the Architect at this point because the rest depends upon the receipt of the grant. The Architect may not work on Phases III and IV without written direction from the City.
- Phase I is hazardous materials abatement. Including it as Phase I will hopefully increase the City's ability to have this covered by the grant.
- Phase II is light renovation in order to get the school ready for K-1 occupancy by August 2016.
- An outside attorney was used for the preparation of this contract in order to get a more up-to-date form. The contract consists of a standard form of contract plus exhibits. The exhibits include the RFQ and the RFQ responses. Exhibit B is the insurance requirements and Exhibit C will be the operative document between the Architect, the Contractor and the City during construction. Since the Contractor selection process has not yet occurred, this exhibit is currently blank.
- The cost estimates become final at the time the Contractor gets set
- There will be an outside 3rd party estimator for each phase to protect against the design exceeding the budget. The estimator being used is the result of negotiations. The estimator is hired by the Architect, but the City has used them before and they are familiar with Fairfield County.
- There is a budget of \$45 Million of construction costs.
- The contract contains a "time is of the essence" provision and a dispute resolution provision
- The project will be managed by the Engineering Department
- During the architect selection process, the level of commitment to the project and staffing levels were important. The Architect has an office in Stamford and the project manager will be based there. The Architect also worked on the 9th grade center at Stamford HS and the media center at the old Rogers School.
- The estimate of the Architect's cost is \$42,986,120, but the final number will depend upon the bids
- The Contractor will be chosen separately through the RFP process. Under State requirements, the contractor will have to have a legal address in CT and be certified by the State to work on the job
- The open issues are whether the Phase I pricing is the most reasonable method given possible unanticipated circumstances and compensation for design work not ultimately included
- The goal is to have Phases I and II completed in a little over one year, which is a very tight schedule
- Under the grant, the building would have to remain a magnet school for 20 years
- This is a reasonable architectural budget, given the construction budget (the 2 architects brought back ended up being the 2 lower cost architects)
- Only \$350,000 of the total price is being committed prior to obtaining magnet funding.
- The contract would be in effect for the Architect for all 4 phases, but doesn't commit the City beyond Phase II

- The funding is in the budget, but the appropriations will still need to be approved by the Board of Finance and the Board of Representatives

The committee, by unanimous voice vote, determined to continue consideration of this item on May 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Savage adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary M. Savage, Chair

This meeting is on video ([Part 1](#) & [Part 2](#))